



THE  
**GARZETTE**



SEPTEMBER 1998

VOLUME 8, ISSUE

**The President's  
Pen**

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



Yum, yum, what some good eats at our annual GARS Picnic and Pig Roast!! I'd like to recognize all those folks that helped out with the preparation but I'm sure I'd leave someone out. Instead of that I'll say a big thank you to Marty Fowler, KE4MLH for organizing the event. He lined up the site, organized a cooking team, made sure we had drinks and plenty to eat and spent most of the night cooking as well. Again it was a fantastic effort from all involved, great food and lots of smiling faces. Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI was taking pictures with his digital camera and I got them via email that evening. One think in common with most of these pictures was the smiles and happy faces. It was great to see all those that turned out.

We've got several activities coming up that I hope you'll get involved with this year. **September 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>** is the Atlanta Cluster Dog Show. We'll need a good number of volunteers to get that event staffed. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we'll be running a Special Event Station using the callsign W4G with the EAA Chapter 690 at

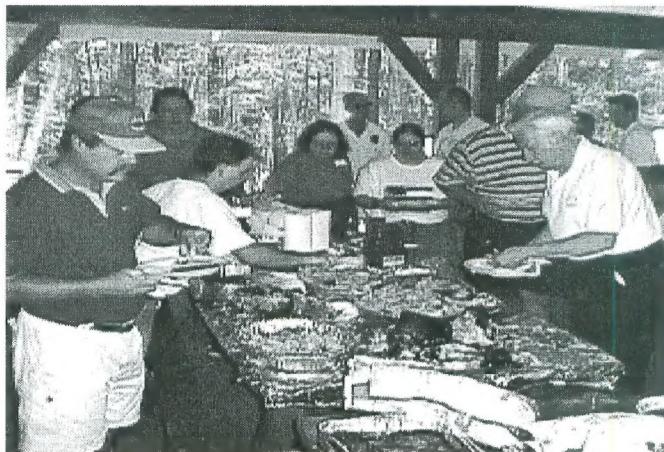
Briscoe Field in Lawrenceville. We worked with this event last year and had a great time despite less than great weather. The folks at EAA tell me that they expect a bigger event this year since they've expanded the scope of the event. Mark Kozma, KD3GC is our event coordinator and is currently planning on two HF stations and a VHF/UHF station.

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>** is also the date for the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test and we'll be participating via the Gwinnett ARES group. I've been talking with Lowry Rouse, KM4Z about the plans for this year's event and he hopes to tie in the training in damage assessment that will be held on **September 8<sup>th</sup>** with the SET. Listen to the ARES net on Monday nights at 9 PM on the GARS two meter repeater for more information. Lowry has also scheduled another Beginner Skywarn Weather Spotter training class for **September 24<sup>th</sup>**. The class will be held at the Education Center at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville. Barry Gooden from the National Weather Service will be con-

**1998 GARS Annual  
Family Picnic  
at Fort Yargo**

This year's picnic seemed to be all expected, Plus. The BBQ was excellent, the side dishes were great and the weather was perfect. Even the beach was freshly groomed by park management.

Congratulations to Paul Brisendine, K4HCM who won the Cushcraft tri-band HF Beam donated by Mario Ruhnke, KD4HFR of Roswell. More pictures inside.



Images by Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI



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## The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to ad4pz@aol.com. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as an unencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer.

**Deadline for submissions is  
the first of each month.**

GARZETTE Editor  
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Paul Brisendine, K4HCM will be assisting each month with the labels, postage and other GARZETTE preparations for mailing. Thank You Paul!!

All correspondence relating to articles posted in The GARZETTE or for information concerning advertisement rates for The GARZETTE should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor

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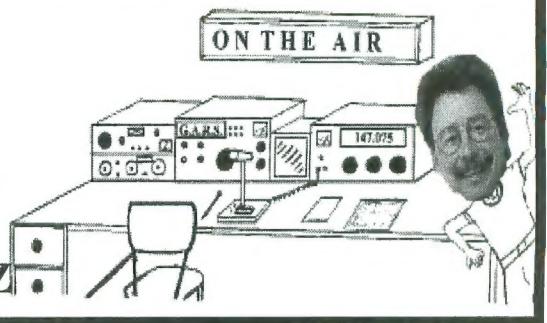
**On The Air  
with  
John Kemker  
KF4MZD  
by  
Karl Phillips, K4GZZ**

This month's On The Air feature is John Kemker - KF4MZD. John was born in Houston, Texas and attended Belair High School. John was relocated to Atlanta in 1979 when his father was transferred while employed with Gulf Oil.

John was first exposed to amateur radio while living in Houston by a friend of his fathers. Mike Blair (now N5MB) had a "monster" ham shack full of all kinds of radio equipment from early packet equipment to RTTY gear. Mike began teaching classes and John went but never finished up the course. John does, however, admit that all that he learned from Mike definitely "stuck with him." John still has some of the study material, including a 1976 ARRL Handbook.

After the family relocated to Atlanta, John attended Henderson High School (now Henderson Middle School). He graduated in 1982 and followed graduation with attending Georgia State and Dekalb College. Later, John was to gain employment in a video store. After working there he began working for Graphic Engraving, which just happens to be located next door to HRO. How John would possibly be able to keep his mind on his job with HRO next door is way beyond me !!! In 1989, John went to work for the Veterans Administration repairing computer terminals and printers. John was then promoted to their Computer Systems Manager. In March of that same year, John went to work for Primerica as a Unix and NT distributed systems engineer.

John got re-acquainted with ham radio while he as the Chapter President



of the Tripoli Atlanta Rocketry Association. That's where his other handle of "Rocket Man" comes from. It seems one of his fellow rocket club member was Tad Danley, who was licensed NZ3I (now K3TD). Tad and John were talking at one of their meetings and Tad discussed with John the fact that he was interested in giving ham classes to the other members of the club that would allow them to operate ATV (amateur television) in conjunction with their rocket launches. In late September of 1996, Tad began the classes, which he held at

his offices in Norcross and 8 weeks later John took his test at the Lawrenceville Hamfest. He passed and became, of course, KF4MZD (Killing Foxes Four Making Zebras Dead). Tad generously loaned him a 2 meter rig and John, of course, made his first contact with Tad. Tad even QSL'd, like all good hams should !!

By the end of that summer, John had obtained a 6 meter transverter. Lady luck found her way into Johns' ham life when a friend of his, who was not even a ham, nor even interested, won a Ten Tec Scout at a hamfest and GAVE the radio to John. Can you spell FREE, NO CHARGE ?? Wow !! John threw up a dipole, (I bet that was painful!!) and began operating on 6 meters. Later, at the 1997 Atlanta Hamfest, John bought a 5 element Cushcraft 6 meter beam.

John's other ham gear consists of an ICOM 765 HF rig. For antennas, John has a Fritzel windom center-fed dipole that comfortably covers 160-10 meters. He also has a 15 meter rectangular loop. John's

*Continued on page 6*



## Ares SkyWarn

By Lowry Rouse, KM4Z  
Gwinnett Co. E.C.



Summer is at an end and time to be planning fall activities. I'll just briefly mention Simulated Emergency Test weekend coming up Oct. 3rd. I covered this in last month's article pretty well. Something I didn't know about at that time though is a field trip to Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA). I asked Mike Boatwright (KO4WX) the District Emergency Coordinator for GEMA to speak at our Oct. 13th ARES meeting. While talking with him, I asked about visiting the GEMA Hdq.'s radio room. That led into a field trip planned for Oct. 4th, the day after SET Saturday. The reason for the first Sunday is that's when Mike normally visits the station, checks out the equipment and checks into the statewide ARES net on 3.975 MHz. Even though having the 3rd and the 4th tied up with ARES activities crowds the weekend, it's really the best time to visit on that Sunday. Why? Well because you'll be exposed to all the traffic handling and activities associated with the National ARRL SET weekend. The amount of stations participating and messages being sent and received will be abnormally large and thus be more interesting for you to observe. I'm going to meet Mike on Sept. 5th to assist him in checking out the station and obtain information on how to get there, where to park and pass that information on to people wanting to participate in the field trip. Information will be given on Monday night ARES/ SKYWARN nets at 9pm local time. For now, plan on being downtown Atlanta around 4:30 to 5pm Sunday afternoon, net is from 6 to about 7pm and we'll leave shortly after the net closes or whenever you feel like leaving. There won't be a formal talk-in, but we can use 145.41 repeater for monitoring and giving directions. So don't let the fear of getting lost keep you away.

Fall is a good time to do antenna maintenance both for mobile and fixed stations alike. As a challenging project,

figure out how to install your 2 meter antenna as tornado/hurricane/ice storm proof as possible. At the fall hamfests, find old, cheap antennas (both hf and vhf) that you can put up and store in a safe place. When a storm or ice damages existing antennas, you'll then be ready to get the stored ones out and temporarily set them up for emergency communications. Don't forget spare coax and connectors too. Relocate existing antennas to better locations to increase range for local simplex communications.

Check along the length of coax cables to find cracked insulation, connection points where the weatherproofing sealants may need replacing, or cable that's not securely fastened to tower or other supporting structure. Also check SWR on existing antennas. Bottom-line thought here is, get things ready during the cooler more peaceful fall season and be prepared for the harshness of winter and early spring severe weather conditions that are to come.

Not much to write about this month so that's it for September. Hope all that can will participate in ARES activities coming up and look forward to seeing you then.

Best Regards,  
Lowry Rouse KM4Z

### WELCOME! NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming our newest GARS members:

AD4JU, Chuck Calmbacher

Best regards,

Jack - WU4H  
Membership Chairman

## ARES Activities

An update on the some upcoming :

### September 8

ARES Montly Meeting  
Gwinnett Medical Center  
Education Center  
Pike Street and GA 316  
Lawrenceville

Program with be Red Cross Damage Assessment Class taught by Tom Crowell, KU4CK  
Meeting will start at 6:30 and last for 3 hours

### September 24

Skywarn Weather Spotting  
Introductory Class  
Gwinnett Medical Center  
Education Center  
Pike Street and GA 316  
Lawrenceville  
Taught by Barry Gooden  
of the National Weather Service  
7PM to 9:30 PM

### October 3

ARRL  
Simulated Emergency Test  
(SET)  
Location and times TBA

For more information contact Gwinnett County EC Lowry Rouse, KM4Z  
(km4z@bellsouth.net)

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM  
ARRL Public Information Officer

### GARS Electronic Mail List



If you have an EMail address and have not yet registered it with the club and wish to do so, please send a message to **Jack Herndon, WU4H** and request to be added to the list.

Send to: [wu4h@jherndon.org](mailto:wu4h@jherndon.org)

## Mr. Ham

**Stories through  
an XLY's Eyes**  
**By Mary Whatley**  
**WB4ALU**

### QSL AT 1ST SIGHT

I met **Mr. Ham** at West Georgia College. He was tall, skinny, wore glasses and had a slide rule hanging from his hip. Most of the time his socks didn't match. Today some people would call him a "nerd". All I know is when I saw **Mr. Ham**, my heart must have traveled into the future. I can't explain it, but I was in love with this Guy I'd only seen on campus.

I saw him everywhere! He was outside of gym class, in the hall after Physics class, and in the student lounge between classes. Always smiling, he never said a word. (Years later he told me if I was late coming out of class, he was late for his next class.)

It was the 60's, everyone smoked. That special day as my friends and I played cards, several people used my softdrink as an ash tray. I was into my 3rd softdrink, when **Mr. Ham** sat down at the table with a "postcard" and a cigarette in his hands.

My brain went South, my heart stopped, and time stood still.

As **Mr. Ham** spoke to one of my friends, his constant hand jesters, caused his cigarette to fall into my precious 3rd soft drink. To my embarrassment the first words I ever spoke to him were more like QRM, than cordial. Always the gentleman, he brought me a new drink, with apologies.

Proudly, he showed me his wonderful "postcard", his QSL card. He told me the wonders of a QSO, what UTC, Mhz,

and RST were. As **Mr. Ham** spoke there was a passion in his voice and stars in his eyes. I learned what amateur radio meant to him, and his dreams. It was as if the band opened up, the skip was perfect, and we made the most important QSO of our lives.

As we were lost among the magic of radio, several friends, including my current beau, joined us and the conversation turned to the Spring Prom. Then right before everyone, my boyfriend, Bobby asked me to the prom. I panicked and said, "I can't go, I'm going with **Mr. Ham**".

**Mr. Ham** fell backwards in the chair and out onto the floor. The only thing I could see was his QSL card on the table. From under the table, a calm and reassuring voice spoke, "I've been meaning to ask what color flower you wanted".

\*\*\*

**Ron Langston, WE5O is  
seen here hard at work...  
at what see page 10.**



### DOG SHOW

I know it seems like we just did this but we've got another dog show coming in a few weeks and we need lots of volunteers to come forward to help. At the August meeting I passed around a sign up sheet and got only ten folks to put their names on the list. If you helped out in August, hopefully you'll be able to come out again. If you weren't able to help out then here's your chance to help out the club. Please don't assume that you can pass on this because your fellow club members will volunteer because they might just be thinking the same thing.

The dates for the show are **September 17, 18, 19, and 20** and the location is the same as the August show. On the 17th we're just covering the front gate so we'll need a small crew but the rest of the days we're doing the same job that we did in August so we'll need the regular number of folks to help out.

When you reply, please let me know what days you can be there and if it's an all day commitment or a morning or afternoon commitment. We'll start our days at 5:45 AM and should be finished by 2 PM each day.

I also need to draft an assistant to help out with the coordination and to serve as a mobile trouble shooter. Marty, KE4MLH will not be able to help out due to prior commitments so I'll need someone to volunteer to work with me. I'd like to have someone that has worked at least one of the two previous events and can help out on the 18th, 19th, and 20th.

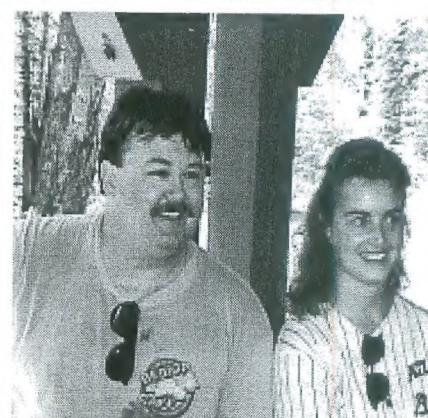
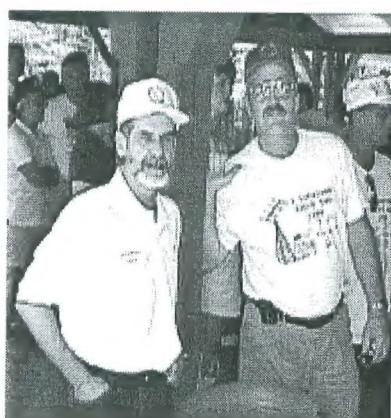
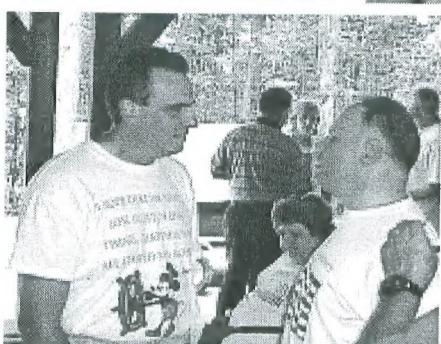
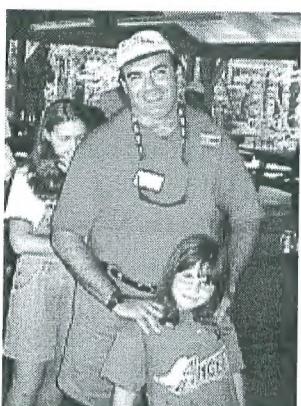
Please respond to this message ASAP so I can get my crew lists setup. We're also in the process of putting together a phone call team to call each club member but if you receive this message and will respond it will greatly reduce the number of folks we have to contact.

If you got any questions please let me know.

Ike, KE4GYM

# 1998 GARS Annual Family Picnic at Fort Yargo

Images by Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI



**...on the Air***Continued from page 2*

next project is installing his Ten Tec in his truck and run dual hamsticks. John is getting interested in RTTY and is working 10 meter phone and 15 meter CW as much as he can.

John's most memorable contact was made during a session of the Monday night 6 meter net. W4KXY - Jim - was running the net when all of a sudden a ham - CO2OJ - Oscar... broke in from Havana, Cuba. Oscar was running a whopping 4 watts. Boy the voxes opened up and Jim took the opportunity to have the net stand-by and one by one he let everyone who was checked in work Oscar. John worked his first DX-out of the country-station and did get a QSL card. Maybe you've seen that very card as it was featured in THE GARZETTE some months' back.

John and Stephanie, who is KF4SWA live in Tucker and have 3 children - Jerrica -10, Kaitlyn Loraine-4 and Rose Marie-1 1/2. I was a little shocked to find out that Jerrica is studying to become a ham !!!! She is studying the manual "Ride the Airwaves with Alpha and Zulu". This is an amazing little persons study manual that uses the morse code letters for the bodies of the characters depicted in the manual. I might have to pick this thing up for the sheer entertainment!!! Good Luck Jerrica !!! She'll be a ham in no time.

John joined GARS in May of 97' and said this about the club. "I love being a member of GARS because no one in the club is "hung up" on any one idea about what a ham "should be". He likes being respected for the kind of person he is and not by the number of QSL's on his wall, contests he's won or size and quantity of his ham gear". John went on to say that he "congratulates and thanks all of the GARS membership on making GARS what it is today". Without GARS, John feels that he wouldn't be as encouraged to do what he has done in amateur radio and feels that he certainly wouldn't be as active in 6 meters as he is today.

It was my pleasure to feature John this month. Sorry, I didn't get to him

sooner, but as we say in the interviewing biz "So many hams- so little time". John has been a very active member of the club and we certainly are better off with him in our membership. As of this printing, John is continuing his efforts in our 6 meter repeater project.

This is about my 27th installment of On the Air and I am still enjoying talking to the membership. I just realized that at the pace I am going, I will have interviewed EVERY GARS member in about 26 more years. I'll be 74. I'm looking forward to it !!! WHO'S NEXT ???

See you next month and good DX to all. Band conditions are improving as we get closer to fall and winter !!

73- Karl, K4GZZ

**Hams win over surveillance manufacturer**

Score a big win for ham radio. This as the FCC turns down a bid by the manufacturer of theft deterrent equipment to gain access to Amateur Radio Spectrum.

Back on April 28, 1997, Checkpoint Systems, Inc. requested that the Commission amend Part 15 of its rules. This, to increase the allowed radiated and power line conducted emission levels for intentional radiators in the 1.705 to 30 MHZ band.

Checkpoint manufactures systems that are used to prevent the theft of articles from retail stores and other facilities. In its filing, the company said that such a rule changes would permit an increase in the operating range for its electronic article surveillance gear without increasing the risk of interference to other radio services.

The FCC designated Checkpoints request as RM 9092 and put out for public comment. Responding on behalf of Amateur Radio was the American Radio Relay League.

On June 16th, 1997, the American Radio Relay League filed in opposition to the Checkpoint petition. The ARRL pointed out that Checkpoint has

**OCTOBER Birthdays  
Within GARS**

By Jack Herndon, WU4H

KE4IKC	Pat Kelley	4
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	Sue Chapman	5
KF4PWJ	Jim Richardson	6
N4EW	Pete Culwell	6
N4SBI	Ron Tingle	10
KF4NBE	Thomas Busching	10
KE4YZV	Randy Grunwell	13
KT4HQ	Bill Mentzer	15
KE4ENK	Mike Burdine	20
KD6CLO	John Farr	25
KF4YQU	Brent Kirkland	26

not provided any technical analysis of the potential for increased interference to the amateur radio service. The ARRL believes that Checkpoint's request would result in increased interference to the amateur radio service which is allocated spectrum in several frequency bands between 1.705 and 30 MHZ.

But that was not all. The ARRL also noted that such installations are often located close to amateur operations located in residential areas. Also, the ARRL also said that such a rule change was unnecessary due to the availability of alternative technology that operates in higher frequency bands.

On August 4th, Dale Hatfield who is the Chief of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology turned down the Checkpoint request. I doing so Hatfield noted that Checkpoint has not provided sufficient technical analysis to support its assertion that there is no risk of interference to other radio services as the ARRL claims. Hatfield also said that Checkpoint had not submitted any scientific evidence to support its claim that building attenuation will act to prevent this kind of interference.

(FCC release)

## AUGUST Meeting Minutes

by John Sokol, K9AOK - Secretary

General Meeting Minutes for Date: **August 20 1998**

Gwinnett Central Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA

Called to Order at 7:45pm, Local time by President Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

Attendance:

Executive: Ike, KE4GYM; Marty, KE4MLH; Kevin, KF4HFN; John, K9AOK

Committees: Joe, AD4PZ; David, KA4KKF; John, KF4MZD; Win, N1TWX; Jeff, KF4NBD; Jack, WU4H

Members: 54 Total

Visitors: 4: Erin Cavan; Raymond, KF4BPP; John, KB4KP; Paul, KE4GBS

Introductions were made, starting with the Executive Board, and then those in attendance.

Dog Show volunteer sign up sheets were distributed.

Ike, KE4GYM; made a motion to accept the secretary's report, as posted in the Garzette. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Marty, KE4MLH; gave a report, inviting all to attend the club's yearly picnic at Ft. Yargo on Saturday, Aug. 29. Those wishing to camp over on Friday need to contact 1-800-APARKS for details. The picnic will start when you get there, and lunch will begin around noon. Bring your swim gear in case the beach is open. The beach status is not known at this time. Be sure to bring a covered dish. The club will provide the pork and the drinks.

John, K9AOK; gave a report on the 1998 Holiday Party. It will be held at the Holiday Inn in Suwanee, thanks to a referral from Ade, N2BSG. The party will be held on Friday, December 18, 1998, between 8pm and Midnight. Adults and Children are welcome to attend. More details will be provided in a separate article posted in the Garzette.

Joe, AD4PZ; announced for those who might have missed it, the Garzette has won national honors for its content. Joe wanted to commend each of the contributors, and without them, the paper would not be what it is. Keep it up, and do not be afraid to submit your articles.

Win, N1TWX; announced the upcoming Tech-No Code Class on Sept. 22. Win has literature from ARRL to distribute around the community to gain a higher attendance at the class. Feel free to stop by and grab some and put them up in highly visible, high traffic areas to promote the Ham Hobby.

ke, KE4GYM; announced our new Web master, David, KA4KKF has taken on the responsibility and will update the GARS image in the World Wide Web.

Earl, AF4FG; announced good participation in the Sunday No-Code Tech classes held at the GJAC. This is a joint Boy Scout /GARS effort

Bob, WA4EFN has Four (4) loaner 2m radios for newly licensed hams that are GARS members. See Bob if you are in need of one of these loaners.

Ike, KE4GYM; notified the membership the 501c3 status is in a hold status. IRS has returned a memo to the club, requesting more information. This has been forwarded to the accountant.

Johnny, W4WKP; made a motion to the membership. This motion is in respect to Jud Whatley, W4NZJ/SK and the club's donating \$250 to the QCWA Scholarship Fund. The motion was seconded by John, KF4MZD; and approved unanimously.

Jack, WU4H; presented one membership for voting. Mr. Chuck Calmbacher, AD4JU was voted on, unanimously

Ike, KE4GYM; was contacted by Sandy Donahue, W4RU, and has accepted the position of ARRL Public Information Officer for Gwinnett County

All of the repeater sites have had an upgrade. New links have been installed and each has a unique controller and signature. If you want to attend the next repeater committee meeting, it will be held on September 12th. Contact one of the committee members for the location.

Upcoming events:

Tom, KU4CK; will be teaching a Red Cross Certification class on September 8th. Contact Tom for further information.

There will be a special events station on October 3rd, 1998. This station will be set up at Briscoe Field in Lawrenceville, in conjunction with the EAA Chapter 690 Bi-Plane Classic Fly-In. See Mark, KD3GC to help with this event.

ARRL/A.R.E.S. will be having their annual S.E.T. on October 3rd, 1998. Contact Lowry, KM4Z for more information.

The annual scouting event, Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) will be held on October 17th. Contact either Earl, AF4FG or Carter, KF4HLF for more information.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:39 pm, Local time

**...The President's Pen**...Continued from page 1

ducting the class once again so if you interested and need more information, contact Lowry.

**October 17<sup>th</sup>** is the annual Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and once again *GARS* will be involved with one or more events to help get local scouts on the air. We'll have more information on the specifics at the September club meeting and in next month's *GARZETTE*.

I know that the elections for officers for 1999 are still six months away, but I want to make an announcement about my plans for next year. For the most part I've enjoyed my year and a half as *GARS* President but it's time for me to move on. Two years when I decided to run, it was about this time of the year and I was able to make my decision because Howie Gould, W4NVF, my predecessor, had made a similar announcement. It is my hope that by making this announcement at this time that someone in the club will make the decision to step forward and run for President in 1999. This was not an easy decision to make, I've leaned in both directions for the past several weeks but I think it's time for me to move on to other things and for other people to come forward and lead *GARS* forward as well.

Our monthly club meeting will be on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and our program is schedule to be Robin Huckabee's, WB4GKI presentation on head's up display technology that was postponed from last month. And my usual reminder to remember the Weekly *GARS* Family Breakfast on each Saturday morning at Steak N' Shake in Lawrenceville.

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## It's Beginning to look a lot like...a GARS Christmas Party

It is not too early to plan on a festive holiday season. We even have seen holly and mistletoe in some stores. This year, our *GARS* family, children included, will be celebrating the holidays by having a dinner and dance at the Holiday Inn, Suwanee. The Holiday Inn is located at 2955 Hwy. 317, Suwanee. The Falcon Inn was on the west side of I-85 at exit 44, The Holiday Inn is on the east side of the interstate.

We will be celebrating on **Friday evening, December 18<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 8:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 8:30 PM. Dinner will consist of a Tossed Garden Salad with choice of three dressings. Cole Slaw and Fresh Fruit Salad round out the appetizers. The main course will be your choice of Carved Sirloin of Beef or Baked Chicken. Your dinner will be complimented with sides of Green Beans Almondine, Sliced Baby Whole Carrots and Baby Bliss Potatoes. There will be a dessert table for those who still have room for a bite or two more. Refreshments will be a choice of Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea.

We will be entertained by our own club DJ, Kevin McClure, KF4HFN. All adult beverages will be available from the facilities lounge. There will be door prizes for those in attendance. We will also find out who is our *GARS* Ham of the Year. Service award presentations will also be made.

The festivities will include presents for the children and even possibly a visit from Santa Claus, if we can interrupt his toy making during his busiest of seasons.

The cost of this spectacular year's end party has not yet be determined, but it should be along the lines of the past year's prices. Please contact either Tammy or John Sokol, K9AOK, at 770-925-1619, with your attendance so that we can plan for the children accordingly. Your RSVP is due by November 15, 1998.

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## Storm Spotters Class Offered

The National Weather Service will be conducting a Beginner Storm Spotter class on **Thursday, September 24, at 7:00 PM** at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville. The class will be held in classroom 5 in the education center (near the labor and delivery center and adjacent to the medical records room). You do not need to pre-register, just come to the class.

There is no charge for this class. It is open to the public and is for anyone who wants to find out more about being able to spot severe weather in the making for their own personal safety, or for someone who wants to become a weather spotter for the National Weather Service.

By attending the class, you are qualified to be a weather spotter, but not obligated to be one. All that being a weather spotter involves is that the NWS has a list of conditions that they want to be notified of. They give you a phone number to call to report if you see any of the listed conditions in your area.

The class instructor (a meteorologist with the NWS) will give out reference booklets with pictures and text describing what weather conditions to look for that might become a severe weather problem. They also tell you how to estimate wind speed and rate of rain fall. The instructor will also show a film and will have a question and answer session afterward. The class usually lasts about 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

If you would like to attend a weather spotter class, and this one is not convenient for you, contact **Barry Gooden at the NWS at 770-486-1133** to find out if there will be a class with a time and location that would be suited to your needs. You can also check the NWS web page at: [www.srh.noaa.gov/ftproot/ffc/](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ftproot/ffc/) and look under "SKYWARN" for times and locations for classes.

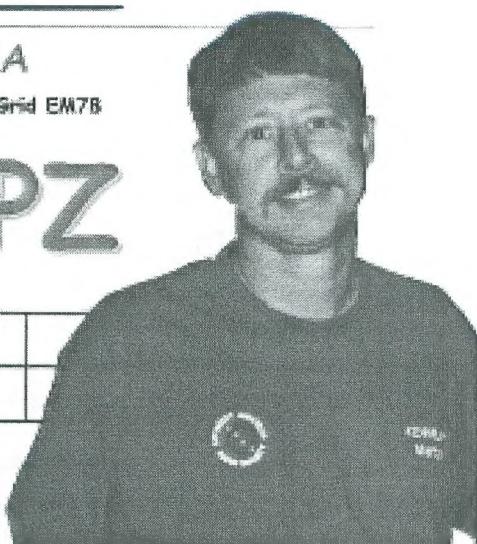
Jan Kelley, KF4TMO

**GEORGIA**

Gwinnett County - Grid EM7B

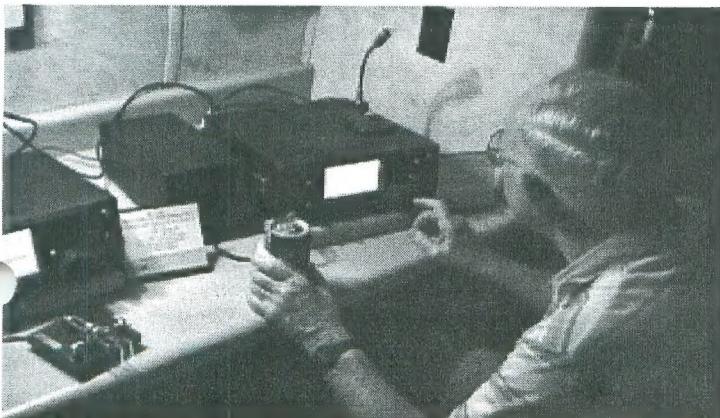
**AD4PZ**

Confirming QSO with:	
	98Hz

a Drive  
30024

## ICOM Pays GARS a Visit with their Display-O-RV (Radio Van)

During a recent GARS Club meeting, members had a chance to check out some lastest equipment when ICOM showed up with its WELL equiped RV. Wouldn't it be nice for the club to have somthing like this? It certainly would give a new meaning to 'Road Trip' and 'HF Mobile'.



No This is not Joe Biddle, AD4PZs mugshot, but it is Marty's, KE4MLH. We were talking about QSL Cards one day and Marty mentioned that he'd like to see his photo one a 'REAL' QSL Card. Well Marty, here's your dream come true, Marty, a real QSL Card with your photo.  
Hi Hi Just having fun with Marty, smile Please.

## The Patch Codes Have Changed!!

Yes You've Looked  
Everywhere But From  
Now On They will  
Occassionally Be On Your  
GARZETTE Mailing Label.  
So Cut It Out  
&  
Keep It  
With You



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Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

## EMAIL HOAX

Submitted by Ike, KE4GYM

It's back! The email tracking myth has returned, this time in a chain letter purporting to originate from "Walt Disney Jr. & Management at Disney World."

According to the message, the first 13,000 people to forward it to everyone they know will win cash prizes or free trips to Disney World.

Not that I want to spoil anyone's dreams of riches, but Walt Disney never had a son named Walt. As a matter of fact, he never had a son. I suppose he could have named one of his daughters after himself, but that seems ...doubtful.

Microsoft has not invented an email tracking program, nor, in the real world, would Disney give away upwards of \$7 million to help Bill Gates test a new piece of software.

The text of the message consists of little more than a lazy reworking of the Bill Gates email tracking chain letter that has been pinging around the Internet since last November.

Need I say it? What you're about to read is a hoax. The Walt Disney Company denies having anything to do with it. Welcome to Fantasy Land...

## More towers - more towers

FCC Chairman William Kennard and members of the Wireless Telecommunications bureau have announced an agreement by local and state governments and wireless industries on local tower issues.

The agreement announced on August 5th helps to clear the way for construction of hundreds of new broadcast towers needed to spur the introduction of digital television.

(FCC release)

## Net Tonight At Eight

We should congratulate those whom operate the Want, Swap, Sell and Information Net held each Tuesday. Taking time take check ins and conduct the net in a semi ordered fashion. Thnk You folks for your dedication. Please check-in to let them know that you're listening, it'll mean a lot to them.

-Editor

This is from Field Day 97 and it shows that there are events consistent across the Field Days. Ron is meditating...in CW...so he can take over soon and really pull in those contacts. Yea, that sounds good!



## GARS Officers 1998-1999

### President

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123

### Vice President

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH (770)682-5789

### Secretary

John Sokol, K9AOK (770)925-1243

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Kevin McClure, KF4HFN (770) 266-6475

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Duane Hanson, KD4KCR (770)962-6086

Howie Gould, W4NVF (770)921-8362

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### Rookie Radio

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### Field Day

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### Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

### Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WW4BB (770)985-8125

### Apparel Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

### Christmas Party Chairman

Suzanne Farr, (770)279-8711

### Digital Radio Chairman

John Farr, KD6CLO (770)279-8711

### HF/VHF/UHF Awards Checker

Don Ennest, KS4WR (770)923-4851

### DXCC Checker

Frank Deak, AF4Y (770)978-6546



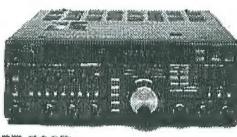
## 12 Store Buying Power!



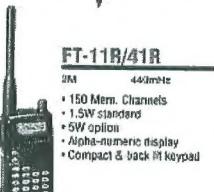
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 • Optional Ext. Auto-Tuners Available  
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Call For Possible Extensions  
 Coupon Expiration Sept. 30th.



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 2M 440 MHz  
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 • 5W option  
 • Alpha-numeric display  
 • Compact & Backlit keypad



**VX-1R**  
 2M/440 Sub-Mini HT  
 • 290 Memory Channels  
 • 5W output  
 • Receives 70-999MHz  
 plus AM BCB  
 • Cell Band Blocking  
 • Lithium Ion Battery  
 Call Now For Your Low Price!



**FT-3000**  
 • 2M 70W Mobile • Wide Band RX  
 • AM Aircraft RX • Dual Watch  
 • 9600 Baud Compatible • Alpha Numeric Display  
 Call For Low Pricing!



**FT-920** HF/6M Transceiver  
 • 100W 160-5M, 12VDC  
 • Built-in DMR, CW Memory Keypad  
 • DSP, Auto-Hotch + 99 Memories  
 • Computer controllable, CAT System  
 Call For Intro. Low Pricing!



**FT-50RD**  
 2M/440 MHz Compact HT  
 • DMR, Decode, Paging Built-in  
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 • Wide Band receive  
 • Battery Saver  
 • 112 Memories  
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 • Hi-Speed scanning  
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**FT-8100R** 2M/440 Mobile  
 • Ultra Compact • 50W/35W 2M/440  
 • 110 memories • Wide Band RX  
 • Backlit mic • Removable front panel w/ opt. YSK-8100  
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## FT-900CAT

• Compact HF Trans., 100W, Collins Filter  
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 • Removable front panel, optional kit req.  
 • DSK, 100 Mem., Gen Cov. Rx,  
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## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

## First Tuesday

**Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers**  
 Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd.,  
 Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by  
 meeting. Talk In 145.410(-)

**First Tuesday**  
**Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in Marietta.  
 Meeting begins at 7:30pm. Talk In 146.88(-)

**First Wednesday**  
**HamWatch**

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta,  
 Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

**First Thursday**  
**N.E. Ga ARC**

Jefferson Civic Center, off of Memorial Dr. toward  
 Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In -  
 147.225(+)

**Atlanta Radio Club**

Georgia Power Federal Credit Union, 4900 Ashford  
 Dunwoody Road, 1 Mile North of Perimeter Mall. Meeting  
 is at 7:30PM Talk In -146.820(-)

**Second Wednesday**  
**North Fulton Radio League**

Alpharetta Diner Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road,  
 Alpharetta, Diner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In -  
 145.47(-)

**Second Thursday**  
**Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting  
 at 7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

**Second Saturday**  
**East Atlanta LAN**

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dunwoody  
 Meeting is at 10:00AM. Talk In - 145.41(-)AND  
 443.025+T100

**3rd THURSDAY**

**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**

Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins  
 at 7:30 in the fellowship hall. Talk In-147.075(+)

**Sharon Adcock, GRI, ARC**  
**REALTOR®**  
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**THE  
GARZETTE**

September 1998

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048



**GARS meets the third Thursday of each month at Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be on September 17 at 7:30 P.M.**

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THE GARZETTE

SEPTEMBER 1998

**Metro Atlanta Test Sessions**

**GARS** Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a Service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00pm (except Jul&Sep.)  
Terry Jones, K4FB 770-967-6364  
Johnson High School WCARS VEC  
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville

1st Saturday - 9:00AM  
George White, KN4NG 361-6850  
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg. 7496  
N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CGA 498-7759  
Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd,  
Snellville Temporarily Halted

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC  
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville,  
GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM  
W5YI-VEC  
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks  
Trickum Rd, Lilburn  
Headphones Provided!

**Metro Area Nets And Roundtables**

Mon	50.235	8:30PM	Regional 6 Meter SSB Net
Mon	147.21+	8:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Tue	28.420	7:30PM	Ten Meter Traders Net
Wed	145.41	11:30AM	Boy Scout Youth Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Thu	146.88-	8:30PM	Kennehoechee ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	427.25ATV	9:00PM	Amateur Television, ATV
	146.655 Voice		
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafrass Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.